

GEN. R. E. LEE, EDUCATOR

Address By Dr. E. C. Gordon Delivered Sept. 18, 1909.

In April, 1861, I stood among a crowd of students of the University of Virginia listening to the earnest words of our Rector, Col. Thomas Jefferson Randolph, who had just returned from Richmond the capital of our State. He had two important things to tell us. One was, that Virginia had resumed all the powers which she had delegated to the Federal Government, and had taken her place as a separate, independent commonwealth among the nations of the earth. The other was that Col. Robert E. Lee had resigned his commission in the army of the United States and had tendered his services to his native country. And the venerable Randolph said, "We would rather have him than General Scott himself."

When the cheers of the students were hushed, some of us asked: "Who is this Colonel Lee whom we would rather have than the veteran Scott?" The answer was: "Oh, yes; he is the man who commanded the United States Marines at Harper's Ferry, at the time of the John Brown raid."

That was about all that most of us knew of the man under whose command most of us were to fight and many of us to die before half a decade rolled away.

Colonel Randolph's estimate of Lee's military genius was sustained.

But General Lee was far more than a great soldier. He was a great and good man. Already at West Point he had displayed conspicuous ability as an educator. Some years before the Confederate war, Southern Episcopalians projected a vast educational scheme. The leaders of the movement asked General Scott if he knew of a man whom he could recommend for the headship of the enterprise. He said: "Yes, I know a man that would suit you; but you cannot get him. The army needs him. He is Colonel Lee of Virginia."

It may interest you to be told how it was that General Lee was invited to the Presidency of Washington college. He was an Episcopalian. The college, though generously sustained by Washington, had been founded, and ans. In the summer of 1865 its condition was apparently desperate. Virginia had been conquered. Her social condition was chaotic. Her treasury was bankrupt. Her fields had been laid waste with fire and sword. Thousands of her best sons were buried in nameless graves. Washington college shared in the common and overwhelming disasters. Her lawns were overgrown with weeds; her treasury was empty; her invested funds were sterile. General Lee was, indeed, a star of the first magnitude. But how was it possible to hitch the broken down old wagon to it?

In the early summer of 1865 the surviving trustees met to consider what was best to be done. Various plans were suggested, a number of persons were mentioned as possible presidents—all to be rejected.

At last Col. Bolivar Christian suggested General Lee. The suggestion at first seemed preposterous. Colonel Christian replied: "Last week, I heard Miss Mary Lee say, 'The Southern people are offering my father everything but work; and work is the only thing that he will accept from them.'"

"Here," continued Christian, "is work; it will do no harm to

offer it to him." The suggestion was adopted; and the Rector, a venerable judge, was authorized to visit General Lee and lay the matter personally before him. He demurred. He had no horse on which to make the journey, no money to pay his way; no suitable clothes in which to appear before General Lee. The situation was ludicrously pathetic. The trustees put their heads together. A horse was borrowed, clothes were borrowed; money was borrowed. And the dignified old Virginia judge on a borrowed horse, in borrowed clothes, with borrowed money in his pocket, went his way to offer a bankrupt college to the greatest man on earth.

Finally the offer of work was accepted and in the following September, General Lee rode quietly into Lexington to take it up.

The outer history of the college is well known. Money was given to refit the college buildings and grounds. Students from all parts of the Southern country flocked to Lexington. Additions were made to the courses of study, and the ablest available men were secured to teach them. In handling the whole enterprise General Lee fully vindicated the estimate of his civic abilities given to the Episcopalians by General Scott.

Let me enumerate some of General Lee's characteristics as an educator.

1. He was himself a broadly educated man. He knew several languages. He was learned in several scientific departments. Outside of the realm of pure philosophy, there was scarcely a class room that he could not enter and intelligently judge of the work done in it by both professor and student.

His power of observation was minute and accurate. His memory was wonderful. He rarely forgot a name or a face or a fact. He knew all his students and their standing in college and town. His wisdom—the ability to adapt means to ends—was unsurpassed. His insight into character and motives was marvellous. It was a common saying in Lexington: "It's no use to try to throw dust into Marse Robert's eyes." He had a genius for order, system, regularity and punctuality; and insisted that everybody should do his duty to the very utmost of his ability. He did.

His plans for the extension of the college were comprehensive and far-reaching. Some of them were not realized in his lifetime; but there is scarcely a department in Washington and Lee University that he did not have in mind and plan for.

2. He had the highest ideals in morals and religion, and was himself a very high realization of his own ideals. His personal life, his domestic life, his public life all showed that he was a Christian gentleman of the highest type.

When Bishop Marvin of Missouri declined to attend a college banquet in order to be present at the mid-week prayer meeting of his church in Lexington, General Lee said: "He is a man after my own heart." He himself attended regularly all his church exercises; he was never absent from the college chapel exercises. He observed family worship in his own home. His great aim as an educator was to make his students learned, cultivated Christian gentlemen; earnest, devout, zealous as citizens and as followers of Christ.

In all these respects he set his students the highest example. His heart cherished no bitterness against those who had invaded his country and slaughtered her sons. His lips never uttered a word of

reproach. He refused to despair, and sought to lead his young countrymen along the paths of honorable, industrious and Christ-like lives.

3. As an educator, General Lee exhibited the same imperial mastery of men that he displayed as a soldier. Men were loyal to him. They loved him, trusted him, followed him, obeyed him: old soldiers, learned professors, boys from the wilds of Texas.

On one occasion there was to be a political meeting likely to be composed mostly of negroes and to be addressed by a radical orator from the hyperborean regions. A rumor got started that the speaker intended to make some invidious reflexions on General Lee. The students became excited and some of them swore by all the gods that they would break the meeting up. The faculty was very apprehensive that there would be a row which might seriously injure the college and the town.

General Lee quietly sent for some half dozen students of note, one or two of them old soldiers, gave them his instructions, which were to the effect that the students must keep away from that meeting. They kept away and the affair was as orderly as a funeral service.

What can I say more? As I look back over Virginia in 1865 I think of a California forest swept by fire—scarred, marred, desolate. One tree—a gigantic redwood—amid the ruins still lifts its head sublimely to the skies.

So General Lee stood out and above the Virginia ruins. Untrifled, unmoved, trusting in God, faithful to God—not to be seduced by the paths of rectitude by any temptation; not to be cast down and destroyed by any adverse fate.

GENERAL STERLING PRICE

An Address by Capt. J. A. Wilson Delivered Sept. 18, 1909.

STERLING PRICE was born in Prince Edward county, Virginia, Sept. 11, 1809. He received a good education in the common schools of the country, and in Hampden Sydney college, also studied law with some of the famous jurists of his time.

He came to Missouri with his father in 1831, residing on a farm in Chariton county. In 1840 he was elected to the Legislature and was Speaker of the House of representatives for four years.

Elected to U. S. Congress in 1846, he had scarcely taken his seat when the war with Mexico began. Resigning, he returned to Missouri, raised a regiment of cavalry and marched across the plains to New Mexico, where his gallant services gained for him promotion to the rank of Brigadier General, the President appointing him Military Governor of New Mexico, which territory we acquired as a result of that war.

Returning to Missouri, he was elected Governor in 1852, which office he held until 1857. He was a devoted Union man and in 1860 supported Douglas for President of the United States.

He was President of the State Convention of 1860 which decided against the secession of Missouri, and remained loyal to the Union until 1861, when the action of the Federal Government and its military agents in St. Louis and elsewhere, in violation of the Constitution and the rights of the State, justified armed resistance.

Placed in command of the State Militia, he and his army soon found themselves in a peculiar position. A State in the Union was fighting for its rights a-

gainst the Central Government of the Union. During the first years of the war, all our battles except one, were fought by our own State troops, without any support from the Confederate Government.

In 1862, Price, with an army of about 5,000 men, who had now entered the Confederate service, crossed the Mississippi and took part in some of the severest engagements of the War.

Most of that little army remained on the east side of the river, more than half giving up their lives for the Southern cause, but General Price returned to Missouri and Arkansas, where he commanded other Confederate forces until the close of the War.

He then went to Mexico, but soon returned to St. Louis, where he died in 1867. On his return to Missouri, he united with the Centenary Methodist church, was baptized by Rev. Wm. A. Smith and died in the communion of the faith.

Sterling Price was a man of fine personality, a scholar and a gentleman. Tall and handsome, though somewhat corpulent in his later years, he presented a striking figure on horseback, at the head of his troops, where he exposed himself, reckless of danger, in every engagement.

He was one of the ablest commanders in that great war, which brought out the best and bravest of the American citizen-soldiers, both on the Northern and Southern side. His soldiers called him "Old Pap."

By his former foes his memory is respected; by those of us who followed his banner in victory and in defeat, he is loved and revered with the best of our heroic dead.

REV. J. M. CHANEY DEAD

Was Widely Known in Presbyterian Circles.

Rev. James McDonald Chaney died late Saturday night at his home, 532 South Main street, Independence, from a rupture of a blood vessel. For some time he had been troubled with acute indigestion; but his sudden death was a matter of surprise.

Mr. Chaney was one of the best known Presbyterian ministers in Missouri. He had been in the ministry fifty-three years and had recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his connection with the Lafayette Presbytery. He was born near Salem, Ohio, March 18, 1831, and was graduated from the Princeton Theological seminary.

For a number of years he was president of Elizabeth Aull Seminary of this place and he was married here to Miss Mary Parke of Sedalia, a former pupil. From here he went to Independence to take the presidency of the Kansas City Ladies' college. At one time he was also connected with an academy for young men at Independence, in which special attention was given to mathematics.

During his ministry he had the pastorates in Lamonte, Hughesville, Corder and Alma.

A good deal of Mr. Chaney's time was devoted to the study of mathematics and especially to astronomy. He was the inventor of several useful and successful astronomical instruments. He was the author, too, of several books. His personal acquaintance was large and he was held in high esteem by his church associates throughout this part of the country.

He was married twice. His first wife was Miss Eliza Dunklin. To them were born two children—Samuel Chaney, now living in the West, and Mrs. W. B. Wilson of this city. Another son, J. Mack Chaney was born to his second wife.

Dr. E. C. Gordon of this city, a friend of Mr. Chaney for many years, conducted the funeral services, which were held in Independence Tuesday afternoon at 2:30.

Laxative for Women Free

There is a great difference in the purposes to which a laxative should be put. Tablets and pills, salts, etc., are usually violent purgatives or cathartics, and altogether too powerful for the average person.

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If the remedy is new to you and you want to make a trial of it before buying, send your name to the doctor's address as below and a free test bottle will be sent you. Then if results are satisfactory you can buy it of your druggist.



If there is anything about your ailment that you don't understand, or if you want any medical advice, write to the doctor, and he will answer you fully. There is no charge for this service. The address is Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 250 Caldwell bldg., Monticello, Ill.

Missouri Pacific Time Card.

RIVER ROUTE—WEST BOUND	
Leave St. Louis.....	12:30 p. m.
Arrive Jefferson City.....	3:40 p. m.
Arrive Marshall.....	6:35 p. m.
Arrive Myrick.....	8:10 p. m.
Arrive Kansas City.....	9:40 p. m.
EAST BOUND.	
Leave Kansas City.....	7:35 a. m.
Arrive Myrick.....	9:00 a. m.
Arrive Marshall.....	11:15 a. m.
Arrive Jefferson City.....	1:55 p. m.
Arrive St. Louis.....	5:20 p. m.
LEXINGTON BRANCH—WEST BOUND MORNING.	
Leave Sedalia.....	5:15 a. m.
Arrive Lexington.....	7:25 a. m.
Arrive Kansas City.....	9:40 a. m.
EVENING.	
Leave Sedalia.....	2:55 p. m.
Arrive Lexington.....	5:25 p. m.
Arrive Kansas City.....	7:45 p. m.
EAST BOUND—MORNING.	
Leave Kansas City.....	6:00 a. m.
Arrive Lexington.....	8:10 a. m.
Arrive Sedalia.....	10:30 a. m.
EVENING.	
Leave Kansas City.....	6:10 p. m.
Arrive Lexington.....	8:30 p. m.
Arrive Sedalia.....	10:55 p. m.

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